

SENATE BILL 1798

By Stevens

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 29, Chapter 16 and Title 54, Chapter 14, relative to easements on private property.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 54-14-102(a), is amended by designating the existing language as subdivision (a)(1) and adding the following new subdivisions:

(2) If the person petitioning for a private easement or right-of-way needs additional land for the purpose of extending utility lines, including, but not limited to, electric, natural gas, water, sewage, telephone, or cable television, to the enclosed land, then the person must include a request for additional land in the petition. Upon receipt of a petition that includes a request for additional land for the extension of utility lines, the court may, upon a showing of good cause, grant the petitioner's request and direct the jury of view to lay off and mark a road that is fifteen feet (15') wider than is permitted by subdivision (a)(1).

(3) If a person who already possesses a private easement or right-of-way granted pursuant to this chapter determines that additional land is needed for the purpose of extending utility lines, including, but not limited to, electric, natural gas, water, sewage, telephone, or cable television, to the enclosed land, then the person must file a new petition requesting additional land. Upon receipt of a petition requesting additional land for the extension of utility lines, the court may, upon a showing of good cause, grant the petitioner's request and direct a jury of view to lay off and mark an area for utility lines that is fifteen feet (15') wider than is permitted by subdivision (a)(1).

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.